Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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2.1

ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 OFA-01 COME-00

CEQ-01 INT-05 SMI-01 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

L-03 H-02 SP-02 OIC-02 AGR-05 /064 W

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R 190731Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5986

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CONFIDENTIAL CANBERRA 4014

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SENV, OCON, TBIO, AS

SUBJ: WHALING: WAS ATTACK ON GOA COMMISSIONER

BOLLEN BASED ON EMBASSY CABLES?

REF: (A) CANBERRA 3229 (B) CANBERRA 1700

(C) CANBERRA 1426

1. SUMMARY: GOA ASKS WHETHER REFTELS HAVE BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO PROJECT JONAH PEOPLE IN U.S. IN LIGHT OF RECENT ATTACK ON AUST. WHALING COMMISSIONER. ACTION REQUESTED: ADVISE WHETHER CABLES MAY HAVE BEEN MADE CONFIDENTIAL

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AVAILABLE EITHER WITH OR WITHOUT DEPARTMENT'S CONSENT.

END SUMMARY

2. RYAN, ASSISTANT SECRETARY, FISHERIES DIVISION, DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE, HAS CONTACTED SCIENCE LIAISON OFFICER CONCERNING LETTER CRITICIZING BOLLEN, FISHERIES DIV. FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND AUSTRALIAN IWC COMMISSIONER. LETTER, LETTER WRITTEN JUNE 7 BY PETER POYNTON OF AUSTRALIAN BRANCH OF PROJECT JONAH (WHALE CONSERVATION GROUP) AND ADDRESSED TO AGRICULTURE MINISTER WRIEDT. IS LATEST IN SERIES OF PROJECT JOHAN EFFORTS TO HAVE BOLLEN FIRED FOR HIS ALLEGED FAILURE TO ADVANCE WHALE PROTECTION CAUSE ADEQUATELY. RYAN BELIEVES LETTER MAY INDICATE THAT PROJECT JONAH PEOPLE EITHER IN U.S. OR IN AUSTRALIA HAVE HAD ACCESS TO RECENT EMBASSY CABLES (REFTELS) REPORTING SLO'S CONTACTS WITH BOLLEN. RYAN HAS ASKED US TO INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITY CABLES WERE LEAKED IN WASHINGTON. MEANWHILE. HE IS CHECKING OUT POSSIBLE LEAKS HERE. BOLLEN IS NOW IN LONDON FOR IWC MEETING, AND RYAN HOPES TO GIVE HIM COMPLETE REPORT AFTER HIS RETURN TO CANBERRA.

3. POYNTON LETTER READS IN PART:

QTE FURTHER TO ALL THIS, THERE IS THE QUESTION OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY'S APPROACH TO MR. BOLLEN ON THE QUESTION OF A TEN YEAR MORATORIUM VOTE SHOULD THE "AMMENDMENT" BE OPPOSED. (IE: IN THE CASE OF NON-UNANIMOUS ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE'S QUOTAS). I CONSIDER THAT MR. BOLLEN'S REPLY WAS YET ANOTHER DISGRACE AND AMPLE EVIDENCE THAT EVEN THE AUSTRALIAN GOVT. SHOULD HAVE CAUSE TO DOUBT THE POSSIBLE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SAID AMMENDMENT. END OTE

4. DEPARTMENT WILL NOTE THAT ALL THREE REFTELS WERE TRANSMITTED AS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. REF B QUOTED BOLLEN'S MARCH 14 LETTER TO SLO WHERAS REFS A AND C REPORTED BOLLEN'S ORAL COMMENTS. POYNTON'S COMMENTS ON "AMERICAN EMBASSY APPROACH" AND "BOLLEN'S REPLY" MAY WELL BE BASED ON HERESAY, EDUCATED GUESSES OR LOCAL LEAKS. NEVERTHELESS, EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHETHER PROJECT JONAH SYMPATHIZERS IN U.S. HAVE HAD ACCESS TO OUR CABLE CONFIDENTIAL

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REPORTS. AS WASHINGTON WELL KNOWS, BOLLEN IS AN OUTSTANDING, CONSCIENTIOUS PUBLIC OFFICIAL WHO HAS ALWAYS ACTED HONORABLY WITH USG. HE HAS BEEN FREQUENTLY MALIGNED BY PROJECT JONAH CRITICISMS HERE IN PAST, AND EMBASSY HOPES THAT OUR REPORTS HAVE NOT PROVIDED BASIS FOR THESE ATTACKS.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER REFTELS MAY HAVE BEEN MADE AVAILABLE, EITHER WITH OR WITHOUT DEPARTMENT'S

CONSENT, TO PROJECT JONAH SYMPATHIZERS IN U.S. GREEN	
CONFIDENTIAL	
NNN	

Message Attributes

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Subject: WHALING: WAS ATTACK ON GOA COMMISSIONER BOLLEN BASED ON EMBASSY CABLES?

TAGS: SENV, OCON, TBIO, AS, US, (BOLLEN, ARTHUR G)

To: STATE

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